

Message Text

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73

ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 EB-11 COME-00 MC-02

TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00

PRS-01 SS-15 NSC-10 AID-20 IGA-02 L-03 RSR-01 /120 W

----- 101291

R 151615 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1039

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMTM DHAHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 16542

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS SA

SUBJ: HELICOPTER SALES TO SAUDI ARABIA

REF: JIDDA 2372

1. JUNE 9 EDITION LOCAL TRADE JOURNAL " AIR AND COSMOS"
CARRIES ONE- LINER STATING THAT SAUDI ARABIA HAS PLACED
" LARGE ORDER" FOR WESTLAND SEA KING ANTI- SUBMARINE
HELICOPTERS.

2. PARIS UNABLE SHED ANY LIGHT ON RUMOR THAT SAG HAS
PURCHASED FRENCH HELICOPTERS. AEROSPATIALE IS ONLY
LOGICAL POSSIBILITY AS FRENCH PRODUCER OF SUCH AIRCRAFT
AND ITS POLICY IS TO TREAT INFORMATION ON SUCH SALES AS
CONFIDENTIAL. AEROSPATIALE- PRODUCED HELICOPTERS IN
CATEGORY OF WESTLAND' S SEA KING WOULD BE THE ALOUETTE-3
AND THE PUMA SA-330. DURING FAISAL' S RECENT VISIT, PRESS
REPORTED HIS INTEREST IN CONCORDE AND AIRBUS, BUT NO MENTION
MADE OF HELICOPTERS.

3. LOCAL UNITED AIRCRAFT REP REPORTS HIS HOME OFFICE IN
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HARTFORD, CONN. HAS SENT PRODUCT SPECIALIST, RICHARD
STEPHANSKY, TO SAUDI ARABIA TO INVESTIGATE RUMORS OF HELI-
COPTER PURCHASES. HE MAY CHECK IN AT EMBASSY.
IRWIN

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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To: BEIRUT
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LONDON
PM
SECSTATE WASHDC
USMTM DHAHRAN
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